

FREE
LIKE WE ALL
SHOULD BE

IN*



A COLLECTIVE
VIEW OF
MODERN SOCIETY

.IN*

WELCOME TO THE FOURTH ISSUE OF .IN* (PRONOUNCED "INKS"). OUR MISSION IS TO COMBINE ART AND TEXT IN EVERY CONCEIVABLE WAY TO MAKE A STATEMENT ABOUT CONTEMPORARY SOCIAL ISSUES WITH A GOOD DOSE OF HUMOR THROWN IN. THIS 'ZINE HARKENS BACK TO THE UNDERGROUND COMICS OF THE '60S IN ITS GRITTY DEPICTION OF EVERYDAY CONTEMPORARY LIFE FROM VARIOUS POINTS OF VIEW. WE SEARCH OUT VOICES FROM EVERY PERSPECTIVE.

THANK YOU TO ALL OF THE CREATIVE FOLK WHO SUBMITTED STORIES AND ART TO THIS ISSUE. KNOW THAT PEOPLE ARE READING YOUR WORK, AND THEY APPRECIATE IT. THEY TELL US SO OFTEN.

THANK YOU TO ALL OF THE BUSINESSES THAT ALLOW US TO PLACE .IN* IN THEIR STORES AND RESTAURANTS. WE COULDN'T DO IT WITHOUT YOU.

YOU'LL NOTICE THAT THIS IS THE FIRST ISSUE OF .IN* WITH ADS. THAT'S SO WE CAN PAY OUR CONTRIBUTORS A LITTLE SOMETHING FOR THEIR AWESOME WORK. MAYBE THEY CAN BUY THEMSELVES A SPRITE WHILE THEY SIT BY THE FIRE WITH THEIR PORK 'N' BEANS AND DREAM UP THEIR FANTASTIC STORIES TO ENTERTAIN AND INFORM US.

SO A BIG THANK YOU GOES OUT TO PURGATORY, THE COMEDY ZONE, RHINO MARKET, PINKY'S WEST SIDE GRILL AND HEROES AREN'T HARD TO FIND. PLEASE SUPPORT THEM AS THEY SUPPORT US, AND TELL THEM .IN* SENT YOU!

ALSO, THANKS TO THE READERS WHO PICK UP ALL 1,000 COPIES AND EXPRESS THEIR GRATITUDE FOR WHAT WE DO. IT IS TRULY HEARTWARMING TO KNOW THAT OUR EFFORTS ARE APPRECIATED.

.IN* IS ALWAYS LOOKING FOR SUBMISSIONS WHETHER IT'S ART, A STORY, A POEM OR A COMBINATION. IF YOU WRITE, WE CAN HOOK YOU UP WITH AN ARTIST AND VICE VERSA. YOU DON'T HAVE TO BE AN EXPERT. WE ARE JUST LOOKING FOR HONEST, PERSONAL STORIES TOLD FROM YOUR UNIQUE PERSPECTIVE. SEND SUBMISSIONS TO INXCOMIC@GMAIL.COM.

WE LOVE HEARING YOUR INPUT. PLEASE SEND YOUR COMMENTS TO INXCOMIC@GMAIL.COM AS WELL.

UNTIL NEXT QUARTER ... TREASURE EVERY MOMENT AND BE GOOD TO EACH OTHER!

OUR COVER ART IS A DETAIL OF PRELIMINARY INKS(!) FOR JERRY KIRK'S PAINTING "DEATH OF DEMOCRACY."

PURGATORY



SINISTER SEASON



OCT. 19TH. 2019 AMOS' SOUTHEND
SINGLECELL.US / AMOSSOUTHEND.COM

Border Children



poem by RYAN THOMAS
art by NATALIE COURTNEY

In quiet rooms, if you listen, there is still noise
In the wake of heresy, there is often religion
In ignorance there is solace that soothes like lullaby
Hush, little baby, don't cry a word
For your vision is only blurred, your mother was taken
for seeking asylum in an 'orthodox' world
Rock-a-bye baby
Your bed is the floor, and your papa was only attempting
to bring you more
When you feel all is lost, look up above because
as martyrs to a revolution you will be on the
shortest trip up
So hush, little baby, don't cry a word
Even in silence, you are more powerful than
a thousand mockingbirds.

Fire Denial

by Karla Holland



©2019 The Gorgon Transplant/Karla Holland

This cartoon represents people who deny growing problems until they affect them personally. Just pick any social issue in the U.S. or in life in general, and it applies.

Personally, I based this on a teacher who kept insisting that my art school would not close because he had worked there 15 years ... despite mass layoffs among his fellow faculty and the Raleigh location having already closed. Naturally, a year later, the Charlotte location did close, and he was out of a job.

Guide To Identifying Hipsters

©Jerry Kirk



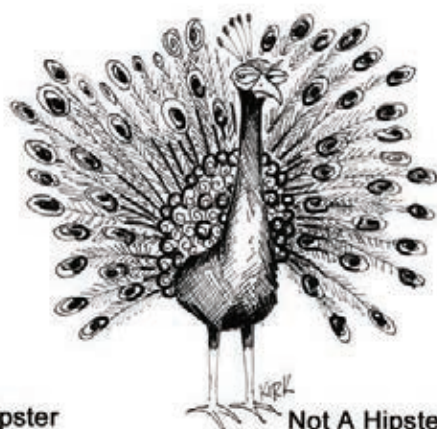
Hipsters



Not Hipsters



Hipster



Not A Hipster



1950's Hipster



2019 Hipster

The COMeDY ZONE

© COMEDY TV 1913

X avid change
music factory

© COMEDY TV 1913

SEPTEMBER AT THE COMEDY ZONE



SPECIAL EVENT

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WORLD-STAR

Funny 8.01

YouTube

SEPTEMBER 6 & 7

steve-o

steve-o

SPECIAL EVENT

WORLD-STAR

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TREVOR WALLACE

BET★ BLACK JESUS

© COMEDY TV 1913

COREY HOLCOMB

SPECIAL EVENT

CALIFORNIA MAN

OUTRAGEOUS PEOPLE

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PAULY SHORE

SPECIAL EVENT



ALI SIDDIQ

SHOWTIME

BET★

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SPECIAL EVENT

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Charlotte, I'm Coming...

Doug Loves Movies

SPECIAL EVENT

SATURDAY 9/28

@ 4:20pm

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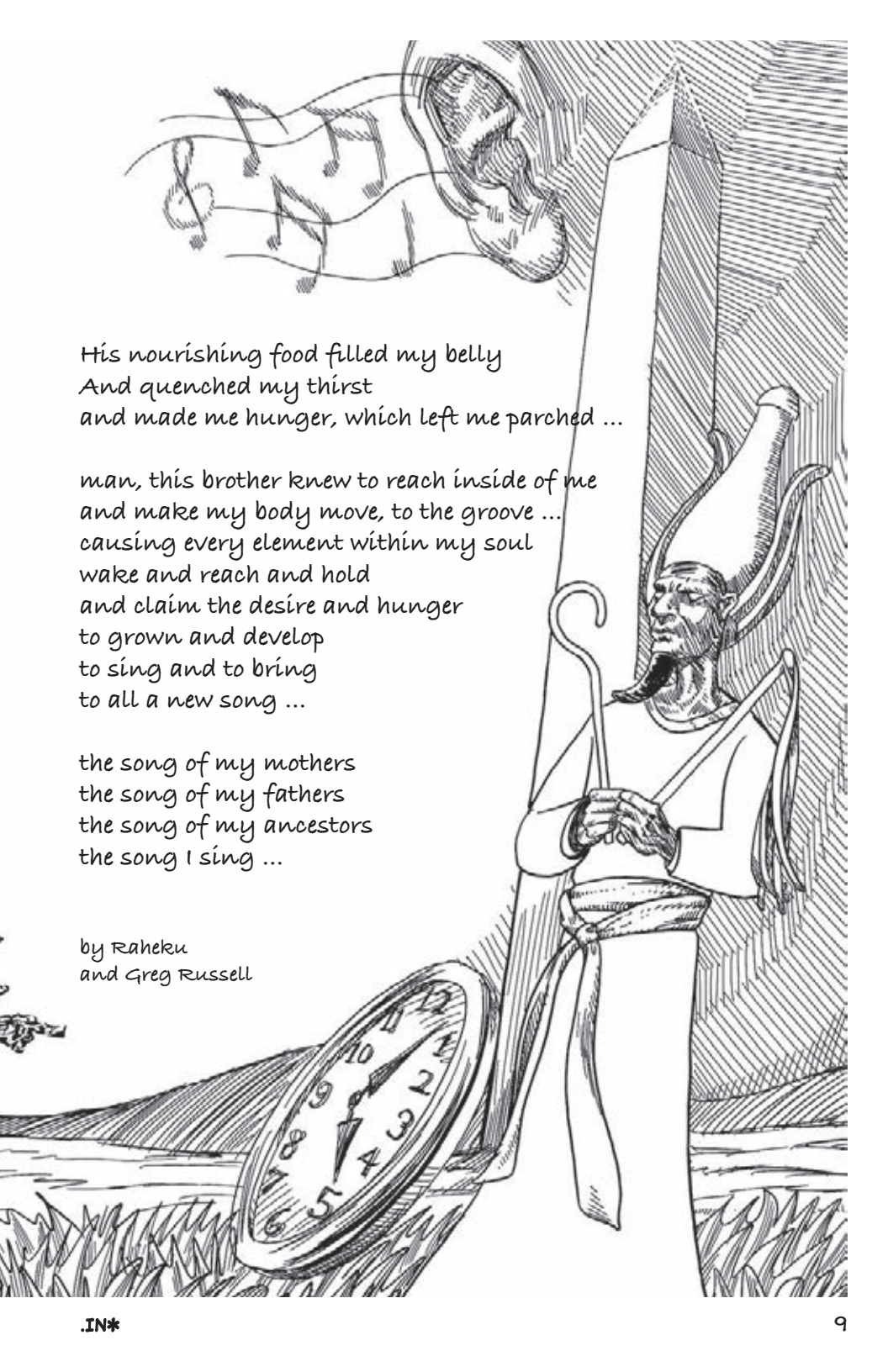
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My Muse

Okay, all, I have found my muse,
and he goes something like this ...

I read the poems of
Listervelt Middleton today
And, man, if you only knew,
The power behind each word
My heart could not subdue
The discontentment
The pain and shame
The pride (which some do hide)
Anger, resentment, hatred
was all leaking inside



His nourishing food filled my belly
And quenched my thirst
and made me hunger, which left me parched ...

man, this brother knew to reach inside of me
and make my body move, to the groove ...
causing every element within my soul
wake and reach and hold
and claim the desire and hunger
to grown and develop
to sing and to bring
to all a new song ...

the song of my mothers
the song of my fathers
the song of my ancestors
the song I sing ...

by Raheku
and Greg Russell



THE DREAM

BY HENRY ELIDY

HAD A DREAM I WAS RIDING
A BIKE THROUGH THICK MUD
AT NIGHT



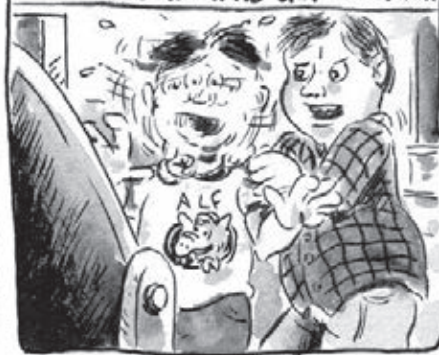
SAW A ROADHOUSE UP AHEAD



INSIDE, WHILE READING A
MAGAZINE, I SUDDENLY BECAME
AWARE THAT I WAS DREAMING



I GRABBED A GUY IN THE ROOM,
MADE HIM LOOK IN A MIRROR
AND SHOOK HIS HEAD BACK AND FORTH



WHEN I QUIT SHAKING HIM
HIS FACE STAYED BLURRY



I LEFT AND REMEMBERED I
COULD FLY



A SIDEWALK PURRING

ALEX LIPPERT





TRUMP - The E

IT WAS IN KINDERGARTEN I FIRST BECAME FASCINATED WITH WALLS.

WHAT A LOVELY WALL, DONALD!
AND WHAT'S THAT IN YOUR LUNCHBOX?



THAT'S WHERE I KEEP THE ILLEGALS!

A FEW YEARS LATER,
I WON MY FIRST SPELLING BEE.

C-O-V-F-E-F-E
COVFEFE!



WHILE IN MIDDLE SCHOOL, I WAS VOTED CLASS PRESIDENT. I LEARNED FROM CLASSIC LITERATURE HOW TO LABEL MY OPPONENTS.

DON'T WASTE YOUR TIME BY VOTING FOR DOPEY DAN!

ME?!

CHOP DOWN A CHERRY TREE?!

FAKE NEWS!!



Early Years

GRADES DIDN'T MATTER IN SCHOOL. BY FOURTH GRADE, I WAS ALREADY THE GREATEST STUDENT IN THE HISTORY OF PUBLIC EDUCATION.



WHERE IS YOUR REPORT CARD, YOUNG MAN?

SORRY, IT'S UNDER AUDIT.

MAKE AMERICA GRADE AGAIN

BY EIGHTH GRADE, I WAS A STAR. AND WHEN YOU'RE A STAR, THEY LET YOU DO IT. YOU CAN DO ANYTHING.



YOU CAN GRAB HER BY THE PIGTAILS AND GET AWAY WITH IT!

NOW, I'm the **PRESIDENT!**
It's like being class president—without the **CLASS!**



SMITH '19

'Sanctuary' (A Poem) by Jerry Lee Kirk



Quiet
alone
embrace
the stillness



Sanctuary
in a
chaotic life



Explore the
darkness
behind
closed eyes



Cling to loneliness
welcoming
the discovery of self



Remember:
we all die
alone...



greeted on
the other side.

BREAKFAST BURRITO WINES WESLEY HEIGHTS
LOCAL COFFEE ABT TRIVIA DJS RAW RHINO
LIVE MUSIC ROTATING TAPS THE BIG SKINNY
CHICKEN TORTA CATERING LUNCH CHAUD LEGUMES
UPTOWN SANDWICHES OMELETES DAILY SPECIALS
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FANCY CRACKERS CHEESES HOT SICILIAN NODA SALADS



mundane wizardry



by Emily Clancy



by Emily Clancy

Sweet Dreams

*The day gives way to night
As shadows paint our bedroom wall
We lay close next to each other
While the lonely crickets call.*

*There is an open window
Next to the dancing drapes
And laying in the darkness
I somehow make out your shape.
In moments like these, I am at peace*

*The troubles of my day they cease
With a loving touch I nudge you gently
Your body is warm, your lips are dry
"What is it?" you ask, startled from your dreams
"You were snoring". I reply.*



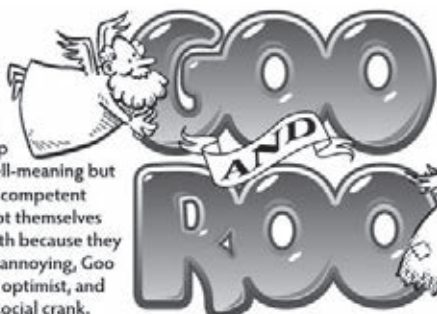


PINKY'S

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Goo and Roo is a comic strip about two well-meaning but completely incompetent angels who got themselves busted to Earth because they were just too annoying, Goo the cockeyed optimist, and Roo, the antisocial crank.

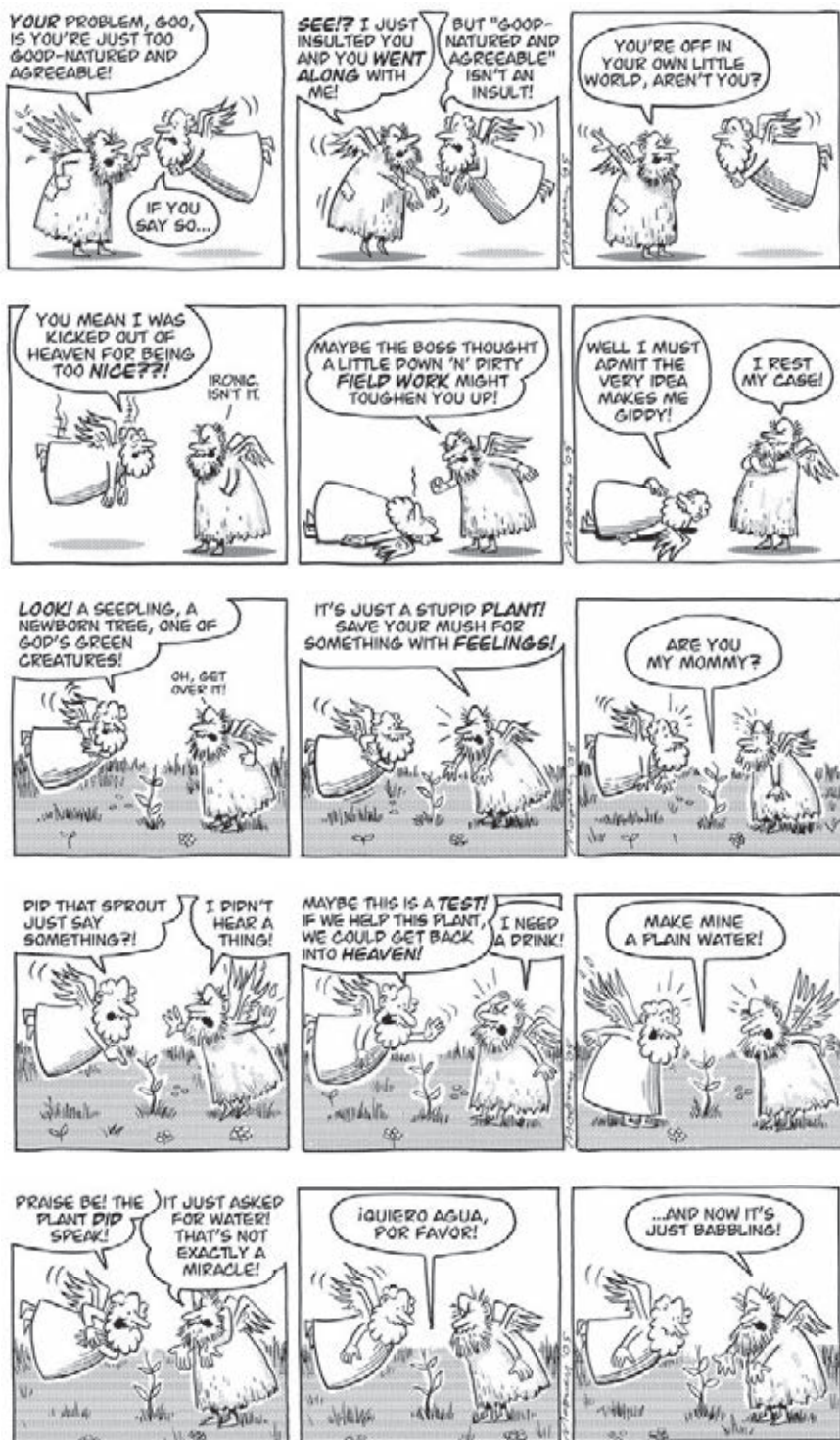


They have to figure out for themselves how to get back home. Unfortunately, neither one of them has a clue; they only have each other!

By Gerry Mooney



© Gerry Mooney Studio





THEM

HUNGRY
PLEASE
HELP

THEY
JUST WANT
MONEY
TO BUY
MORE
DRUGS.
DAMN
ADDICT

Later

SOMETHING
TO TAKE
THE
EDGE
OFF

Shelly 19

.IN* ISSUE #4 CONTRIBUTORS



P. 4 BORDER CHILDREN

RYAN THOMAS WRITER

THOMAS IS A SOPHOMORE AT HOWARD UNIVERSITY FROM NORTH CAROLINA BY WAY OF ATLANTA. SHE IS A JOURNALISM MAJOR AND POLITICAL SCIENCE MINOR AND CONTINUES TO CHALLENGE HERSELF THROUGH WRITING IN DIFFERENT STYLES. THIS IS THE FIRST POEM THOMAS HAS EVER SHARED, AND SHE HOPES TO CONTINUE PRESENTING HER WRITING IN THE FUTURE.



NATALIE COURTNEY ARTIST

COURTNEY IS A SOPHOMORE AT HOWARD UNIVERSITY FROM HOUSTON MAJORING IN ART. THIS SUMMER SHE FOCUSED ON CULTIVATING HER ILLUSTRATION SKILLS AND WAS FEATURED IN A FEW LOCAL ART SHOWS. THIS IS COURTNEY'S FIRST POLITICALLY-THEMED PIECE, AND SHE HOPES TO DO MORE IN THE FUTURE.



P. 5 FIRE DENIAL

KARLA HOLLAND WRITER/ARTIST

HOLLAND IS A GRAPHIC DESIGNER AND CARTOONIST IN WILMINGTON, NC. WHEN NOT COMPLETING A PROJECT, SHE CONTEMPLATES ART'S NAVEL ON INSTAGRAM @THEGORGONTRANSPLANT"



P. 6 GUIDE TO IDENTIFYING HIPSTERS

JERRY KIRK WRITER/ARTIST

JERRY KIRK IS AN AWARD-WINNING ARTIST LOCATED IN CHARLOTTE. HIS WORK IS IN PRIVATE COLLECTIONS THROUGHOUT THE WORLD. HE IS ALSO ONE OF THE FOUNDING FATHERS OF THE HISTORIC N. DAVIDSON ST. ART DISTRICT KNOWN AS "NODA." FOR MORE INFORMATION AND TO SEE MORE ART, VISIT THE OFFICIAL SITE: WWW.JERRYKIRK.COM



P. 8 MY MUSE

RAHEKU WRITER

RAHEKU IS A CREATOR OF MANY TALENTS INCLUDING POETRY. SHE IS ORIGINALLY FROM LIBERIA AND COMES TO CHARLOTTE VIA LONG ISLAND AND PHILADELPHIA.



GREG RUSSELL ARTIST

GREG IS A TRUE CHARLATAN, BORN AND RAISED IN CHARLOTTE. HE IS A GRAPHIC DESIGNER, ILLUSTRATOR, PHOTOGRAPHER, WEB DESIGNER, WRITER AND EDITOR, BUT HIS FAVORITE THING TO DO IS DRAW COMICS. SEE EXAMPLES OF HIS WORK AT GREGRUSSELL.US



P. 10 THE FANTASY

HENRY EUDY WRITER/ARTIST

ACCORDING TO HIS INSTAGRAM PROFILE, EUDY IS A WIZARD. A TRUE STAR. YOU CAN FIND SAID INSTAGRAM ACCOUNT AT [HENRY_EUDY](https://www.instagram.com/henry_eudy).

- P. 11 THE DREAM
HENRY EUDY WRITER/ARTIST



- P. 12 A SIDEWALK PURRING
ALEX LIPPERT WRITER/ARTIST
ALEX LIPPERT IS AN EXPERIMENTAL PHOTOGRAPHER, ILLUSTRATOR AND A MUSICIAN BURNING THE CANDLE AT BOTH ENDS.



- P. 14 TRUMP: THE EARLY YEARS
STEVE SMITH WRITER/ARTIST
SMITH IS A GREAT CARTOONIST AND A HELLUVA FUNNY GUY.

- P. 16 SANCTUARY
JERRY KIRK WRITER/ARTIST



- P. 18 MUNDANE WIZARDRY
EMILY CLANCY WRITER/ARTIST
AN ANALYST IN GREENSBORO BY DAY, LAST YEAR CLANCY FOUND HERSELF CARVING OUT TIME FOR ART BY DRAWING COMICS INTO THE NIGHT. WORK MAKES HER LATE FOR THE LIMITLESS THINGS SHE LOVES: URBAN SKETCHING, ABSTRACT PAINTING AND MAKING THINGS WITH HER DAUGHTER. FIND MORE OF HER WORK ON INSTAGRAM AT @MUNDANEWIZARDRY.

- P. 20 SWEET DREAMS
STEVE SMITH WRITER/ARTIST



- P. 22 GOO AND ROO
GERRY MOONEY WRITER/ARTIST
MOONEY IS A NEW YORK COMMERCIAL ARTIST AND ILLUSTRATOR WHO HAS RETIRED TO CLAREMORE, OK, WITH HIS WIFE, PLAYWRIGHT VICKI LYNN MOONEY. GERRY CREATED GOO AND ROO IN 2005 IN AN UNSOLD BID FOR SYNDICATION. HE CONTINUES TO WORK ON PERSONAL PROJECTS AND THE OCCASIONAL FREELANCE WORK. CONTACT HIM AT GERRY@MOONEYART.COM.



- P. 25 THEM
SHELLY HOLCOMB WRITER/ARTIST
HOLCOMB HAS BEEN DRAWING CARICATURES IN THE CHARLOTTE AREA FOR 25+ YEARS. SHE ALSO DABBLES IN PEN & INK, PAINTING, AND KEEPS UP WITH AN EVER GROWING FAERY GARDEN.

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